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**Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**

## Letter dated 12 February 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the letter dated 30 December 2008 addressed to the President of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) (see annex), which made clear that the Argentine Republic rejects the assignment of the Internet domains ".fk" and ".gs" by ICANN to the illegitimate colonial "authorities" of the Malvinas Islands and South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, respectively.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 23.

(*Signed*) Jorge **Argüello**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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## Annex to the letter dated 12 February 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Spanish]

I am writing to you in relation to the establishment of the ".fk" and ".gs" ccTLDs ("country code Top Level Domains") and the delegation of those domains to the so-called "governments" of the "Falkland Islands" and "South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands".

In this respect, the Argentine Government rejects the said measures regarding the said archipelagos by which they are presented as separate from the Argentine Republic and under a status that they do not have.

Furthermore, the Argentine Government recalls that the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are an integral part of the territory of the Argentine Republic and, being illegitimately occupied by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, are the subject of a sovereignty dispute between both countries, recognized by the United Nations among other international and regional organizations.

The United Nations General Assembly has adopted resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25, by which it recognizes the existence of a sovereignty dispute relating to the "Question of the Malvinas Islands" and requests the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful and definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute. Similarly, the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization has repeatedly stated its position along the same lines, most recently through the resolution adopted on 12 June 2008.

In view of the above, the Argentine Government kindly requests ICANN and subordinate bodies to eliminate the domains known as ".fk" and ".gs" as well as their delegation to the so-called "governments" of the "Falkland Islands" and "South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands" or any other "organization" whatsoever.

Likewise, the Argentine Government kindly requests ICANN and subordinate bodies to consider "NIC-ARGENTINA" as the only valid delegated authority for the ".ar" domain in charge of authorizing the registration of all the domain names within the Argentine Republic, including those addressed in the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

The Argentine Government would appreciate this letter to be circulated as an official document of ICANN.

(*Signed*) Eduardo M. de L. **Airaldi**
Ambassador
Director General of the Malvinas and South Atlantic Department